

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Highly branched α -glucan having an average molar weight of at least 10^5 Da can be used for inducing or enhancing satiety and/or satiation in humans or animals by incorporation of the α -glucan into a liquid nutritional or pharmaceutical composition, preferably together with a food protein. The α -glucan induces a viscosity increase upon lowering the pH. The degree of branching of the α -glucan is at least 8%. Such α -glucans can be obtained e.g. by fermentation of lactobacillus strains having glucosyltransferase activity on a sucrose substrate.